This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for processing a message in a network computing system including a facsimile transmission comprised of a recipient contact address and message content, wherein the message content includes at least one of message text and attached files, comprising:

managing with the facsimile server the facsimile transmissions as fax jobs;

transferring with the facsimile server the message content to a conversion computer;

maintaining, with the conversion computer, multiple application programs to convert the content of different attachment files in different file formats to images in an image file format, wherein a plurality of the application programs are capable of converting files in different file formats to the image file format;

launching, with the conversion computer, at least one application program to convert the message content to converted message content in the image file format;

transferring, with the conversion computer, the converted message content to the facsimile server; and

transferring, with the facsimile server, the converted message content in the image file format to a communication port for transmittal to the recipient contact address.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

transferring, with the facsimile server, a job number assigned to the fax job to the conversion computer; and

requesting, with the conversion computer, the message content for the job number, wherein the facsimile server transfers the message content in response to receiving the request from the conversion computer.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

maintaining, with the facsimile server, a job table including fax job records identified by job number; and

changing, with facsimile server, state fields in the fax job records to manage the workflow of the fax jobs between the facsimile server, ~~second computing systems~~ <u>conversion computer</u>, and communication port.

4.   (Previously Presented) A method for processing a message in a network computing system including a facsimile transmission comprised of a recipient contact address and message content, wherein the message content includes at least one of message text and attached files, comprising:

managing the facsimile transmission as a fax job in a first computing system, wherein the facsimile transmission further includes sender information for the sender of the fax job;

transferring, with the first computing system, a job number assigned to the fax job to the second computing system;

requesting, with the second computing system, the message content for the job number;

transferring the message content to a second computing system, wherein the first computing system transfers the message content in response to receiving the request from the second computing system;

launching, with the second computing system, at least one application program to convert the message content to at least one image in a file format, wherein the second computing system generates the content of message text and each attachment into images in the file format;

using, with the second computing system, the sender information to access fax cover page information for the fax job;

generating a cover page image in the file format from the fax cover page information if there is fax cover page information for the sender of the fax job; and

transmitting, with the second computing system, the converted fax cover page image to the first computing system;

transferring, with the second computing system, the converted message content in the file format to the first computing system; and

transferring, with the first computing system, the fax cover page and message content in the file format to a communication port for transmittal to the recipient contact address.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the message content is converted to one or more images in the image file format.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein for each attachment file received from the facsimile server, the conversion computer further performing:

determining one of multiple application programs capable of opening the attachment file; and

using the determined application program to convert the content of the attachment file to one or more images in the image file format, wherein all the images in the image file format comprising the at least one converted attachment file are transferred to the facsimile server.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising converting, with the conversion computer, the message text to at least one image in the image file format, wherein the images comprising the converted attachment files are arranged in a file in the image file format according to an order in which they were attached to the message and follow one image comprising the converted message text.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining, with the conversion computer, multiple application programs open to concurrently convert the content of different attachment files to images in the image file format.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the different attachment files concurrently converted to images in the image file format are part of different fax jobs.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising using, with the conversion computer, one application program to concurrently convert the content of different attachment files associated with the application program to images in the image file format.

11.   (Currently Amended) A network computing system for processing a message including a facsimile transmission comprised of a recipient contact address and message content, wherein the message content includes at least one of message text and attached files comprising:

(a) a facsimile server comprising a first processor and a first memory coupled to the first processor;

(b) a conversion computer comprising a second processor and a second memory coupled to the second processor;

(c) a communication port in communication with the facsimile server;

(d) first program logic residing in the first memory, wherein the first program logic, when read and executed by the facsimile server:

(i) managing the facsimile transmission as a fax job;

(ii) transferring the message content to the conversion computer; and

(iii) transferring converted message content in an image file format received from the conversion computer to a communication port for transmittal to the recipient contact address; and

(e) second program logic residing in the second memory, wherein the second program logic, when read and executed by the second processor performs:

(i) maintaining multiple application programs to convert the content of different attachment files in different file formats to images in the image file format, wherein a plurality of the application programs are capable of converting files in different file formats to the image file format;

(ii) launching at least one application program to convert the message content to converted message content the image file format; and

(iii) transferring the converted message content in the image file format to the~~first computing system~~ <u>facsimile server</u>.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the first program logic further performs transferring a job number assigned to the fax job to the conversion computer and wherein the second program logic further performs requesting the message content for the

job number, wherein the facsimile server transfers the message content in response to receiving the request from the conversion computer.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the first program logic further performs:

maintaining a job table including fax job records identified by job number; and

changing state fields in the fax job records to manage the workflow of the fax jobs between the facsimile server, conversion computer, and communication port.

14.   (Previously Presented) A network computing system for processing a message including a facsimile transmission comprised of a recipient contact address and message content, wherein the message content includes at least one of message text and attached files comprising:

(a) a first computing system comprising a first processor and a first memory coupled to the first processor;

(b) a second computing system comprising a second processor and a second memory coupled to the second processor;

(c) a communication port in communication with the first computing system;

(d) first program logic residing in the first memory, wherein the first program logic, when read and executed by the first processor performs:

(i) managing the facsimile transmission as a fax job, wherein the message including the facsimile transmission further includes sender information for the sender of the fax job;

(ii) transferring a job number assigned to the fax job to the second computing system;

(iii) transferring the message content to a second computing system; and

(iv) transferring the message content received from the second computing system to a communication port for transmittal to the recipient contact address; and

(e) second program logic residing in the second memory, wherein the second program logic, when read and executed by the second processor performs:

(i) requesting the message content for the job number, wherein the first computing system transfers the message content in response to receiving the request from the second computing system;

(ii) launching at least one application program to convert the message content to at least one image in a file format, wherein the content of message text and each attachment is generated into images in the file format;

(iii) using the sender information to access fax cover page information for the fax job;

(iv) generating a cover page image in the file format from the fax cover page information if there is fax cover page information for the sender of the fax job;

(v) transmitting the converted fax cover page image to the first computing system; and

(vi) transferring the converted message content in the file format to the first computing system[[;]].

15.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the message content is converted to one or more images in the image file format.

16.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein for each attachment file received from the facsimile server, the second program logic further performs:

determining one of multiple application programs capable of opening the attachment file; and

using the determined application program to convert the content of the attachment file to one or more images in the image file format, wherein all the images in the image file format comprising the at least one converted attachment file are transferred to the facsimile server.

17.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the second program logic further performs converting the message text to at least one image in the image file format, wherein the images comprising the converted attachment files are arranged in a file in the image

file format according to an order in which they were attached to the message and follow one image comprising the converted message text.

18.　(Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the second program logic further comprises maintaining multiple application programs open to concurrently convert the content of different attachment files to images in the image file format.

19.　(Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the different attachment files concurrently converted to images in the image file format are part of different fax jobs.

20.　(Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the second program logic further performs using one application program to concurrently convert the content of different attachment files associated with the application program to images in the image file format.

21.　(Previously Presented) A signal-bearing medium containing at least one first and second computer programs for processing a message in a network computing system including a facsimile transmission comprised of a recipient contact address and message content, wherein the message content includes at least one of message text and attached files, wherein the first program and second program are executed by a facsimile server and a conversion computer, respectively, comprising:

　　wherein the first program is capable of causing the facsimile server to perform:

　　　　(i) managing the facsimile transmission as a fax job;

　　　　(ii) transferring the message content to the conversion computer;

　　　　(iii) transferring the converted message content received from the conversion computer to a communication port for transmittal to the recipient contact address; and

　　wherein the second program is capable of causing the conversion computer to perform:

　　　　(i) maintaining, with the conversion computer, multiple application programs to convert the content of different attachment files in different file formats to images in an image file format;

(ii) launching at least one application program to convert the message content to converted message content in the image file format; and

(iii) transferring the converted message content in the image file format to the facsimile computer.

22.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 21,

wherein the first computer program further performs transferring a job number assigned to the fax job to the conversion computer; and

wherein the second computer program further performs requesting the message content for the job number, wherein the facsimile server transfers the message content in response to receiving the request from the conversion computer.

23.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the first computer program further performs:

maintaining, with the facsimile server, a job table including fax job records identified by job number; and

changing, with the facsimile server, state fields in the fax job records to manage the workflow of the fax jobs between the facsimile server, conversion computer, and communication port.

24.   (Previously Presented) A signal-bearing medium containing at least one first and second computer programs for processing a message in a network computing system including a facsimile transmission comprised of a recipient contact address and message content, wherein the message content includes at least one of message text and attached files, wherein the first program and second program are executed by a first computer and a second computer, respectively, comprising:

wherein the first program is capable of causing the first computer to perform:

(i) managing the facsimile transmission as a fax job, wherein the message including the facsimile transmission further includes sender information for the sender of the fax job;

(ii) transferring a job number assigned to the fax job to the second computing system;

(iii) transferring the message content to a second computer; and

(iv) transferring the message content received from the second computer to a communication port for transmittal to the recipient contact address; and

wherein the second program is capable of causing the second computer to perform:

(i) requesting the message content for the job number, wherein the first computing system transfers the message content in response to receiving the request from the second computing system;

(ii) using the sender information to access fax cover page information for the fax job;

(iii) generating a cover page image in the file format from the fax cover page information if there is fax cover page information for the sender of the fax job;

(iv) launching at least one application program to convert the message content to at least one image in a file format, wherein the second computer program generates the content of message text and each attachment into images in the file format;

(v) transmitting the converted fax cover page image to the first computing system; and

(vi) transferring the converted message content in the file format to the first computing system.

25.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, wherein the message content is converted to one or more images in the image file format.

26.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, wherein for each attachment file received from the facsimile server, the second computer program further performs:

determining one of multiple application programs capable of opening the attachment file; and

using the determined application program to convert the content of the attachment file to one or more images in the file format, wherein all the images in the image file format comprising the at least one converted attachment file are transferred to the facsimile server.

27.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 26, wherein the second computer program further performs converting the message text to at least one image in the image file format, wherein the images comprising the converted attachment files are arranged in a file in the image file format according to an order in which they were attached to the message and follow one image comprising the converted message text.

28.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 26, wherein the second computer program further performs maintaining multiple application programs open to concurrently convert the content of different attachment files to images in the image file format.

29.   (Previously Presented) The signal bearing medium of claim 28, wherein the different attachment files concurrently converted to images in the image file format are part of different fax jobs.

30.   (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 28, wherein the second computer program further performs using one application program to concurrently convert the content of different attachment files associated with the application program to images in the image file format.